To keep his equipment busy in the winter, he worked with the Redevelopment Commission in Greenville and Washington and razed the old homes to make room for development downtown and for expansion of ECU. He salvaged all the good materials and built a home on the river. He was so creative; he never needed to draw a plan on paper. It was always in his head. He assured his wife he had torn down enough homes to know how to build one and he did in 1978. Then he sold his home on the golf course in Greenville and moved to Bath. He commuted to jobs in Greenville and eventually the partnership with Aileen and Graham was dissolved when their daughter and her husband joined them in business. Leland built an office resembling a tobacco barn in his yard in Bath. He also built four "dependencies" or out buildings like Williamsburg! He had a good reputation as an accomplished landscape designer and an honest businessman all his life. His son, Stuart, is now carrying on that tradition.

Leland was always intrigued with the Pamlico river area which was the driving force to build a home at Bath. Bath is the oldest town in North Carolina. Ironically, Bath was the place it is suspected the earliest Flanagan family ancestor in the new world, William, bought property and probably began the lineage of the Flanagans in North Carolina.